

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SNM-02 RSR-01 AID-20 CIAE-00 INR-10

IO-12 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SY-10 TRSE-00 USIA-12

NSC-10 SCI-06 OMB-01 /100 W
----- 084313

P R 020949 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO BNDD HQS WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2828

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 6893

BNDD FROM DOYLE

HQS PASS BELK/IA, DURKIN/ENCC

WHITE HOUSE PASS L. GLADDEN

E. O. 11652 : GDS 1979

TAGS: SNAR, TH, LA

SUBJECT: TASK FORCE REPORTS, WEEK ENDING APRIL 25, 1973

1. TASK FORCE 23 (SNO)

A) PERSONNEL: NO CHANGE

B) EQUIPMENT: NO CHANGE

C) OFFICE SPACE: NO CHANGE

D) OPERATIONS

WB-73-0007: ON MARCH 16, 1973, 66 KILOGRAM OF RAW
OPIUM WAS SEIZED ALONG WITH A SUSPECTED OPIUM REFINERY SITE
AT BAN NA KLANG. THERE WERE TWO FUGITIVES, LAO SANG AND SANG
SHEN SANG. ON MARCH 19, 1973, A BPP RAIDING PARTY RE- ENTERED
THE VILLAGE ON FOOT IN AN ATTEMPT TO LOCATE THE FUGITIVES.
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NINE PEOPLE WERE ARRESTED AT THE VILLAGE, BUT SEVEN WERE RELEASED, DUE TO BPP'S LACK OF JURISDICTIONAL ARREST POWER. SNO WAS UNABLE TO REACH THE VILLAGE AS PLANNED DUE TO THE LATE ARRIVAL OF THE PAD HELICOPTER FOR SNO PERSONNEL WHO HAD JURISDICTIONAL POWER OF ARREST. THE TWO ARRESTED WERE: LAO CHUN, A SUSPECTED SMUGGLER, AND WANG SHAN LOANG, A REPORTED FARMER. THE TWO WERE ARRESTED ON AN ALIEN REGISTRATION VIOLATION. INVESTIGATION OF THE TWO SUSPECTS AS WELL AS DOCUMENTS SEIZED LET TO A WEALTH OF INFORMATION FOR FUTURE TARGETS.

BPP AND SNO ARE NOW WORKING ON A POSSIBLE RAID OF A CARAVAN OF 900 CHOI OF OPIUM. THE CARAVAN IS REPORTED TO BE HEAVILY GUARDED. (APPROXIMATELY 80 PERSONNEL). THE PROPOSED PLAN WOULD HAVE BPP STOP AND SECURE THE CARAVAN AT A PREDESTINED LOCATION, AND HAVE SNO PERSONNEL, WHO HAVE THE ARREST POWER, TO SEARCH, GATHER EVIDENCE, AND MAKE ARRESTS.

CHIANG RAI AND MAE SAI ARE STILL WORKING ON THE TWO TON RAW OPIUM CASE. THE OPIUM IS STILL IN BURMA AND THE INFORMANT IS ON GUARD READY TO INFORM SNO WHEN THE OPIUM CROSSES THE BORDER INTO THAILAND.

E) SPECIAL COMMENT: BPP AND SNO FORCES SEEM TO HAVE A GOOD WORKING RELATIONSHIP BASED ON PAST PERFORMANCES AND FUTURE PLANNING OF INVESTIGATIONS.

2. TASK FORCE 27 (GSI)

A) PERSONNEL: NO CHANGE

B) EQUIPMENT: THE ONE JEEP ASSIGNED TO LUANG PRABANG DISTRICT OFFICE HAS BEEN DISABLED DUE TO LACK OF SPARE PARTS WHICH ARE UNAVAILABLE IN LAOS. AS OF THIS DATE, ATTEMPTS TO LOCATE THE ABOVE PARTS OR A TEMPORARY REPLACEMENT VEHICLE HAVE PROVEN NEGATIVE. REMAINING TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE TO GSI- LUANG PRABANG CONSISTS OF ONE MOTORCYCLE FOR NINE OFFICERS. IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT THIS SITUATION WILL BE RELIEVED SOMEWHAT BY THE RECENT DELIVERY OF 10 MOTORCYCLES AT VIENTIANE, TWO OF WHICH WILL BE FORWARDED TO LUANG PRABANG AND THE REST DISSEMINATED TO REMAINING OFFICES.

C) OFFICE SPACE: NO CHANGE

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D) OPERATIONS:

(A) BAN HOU EI SAI: GSI RANGE OF OPERATIONS IN THAT AREA HAS BEEN CURTAILED DUE TO THE ADVANCE OF PATHET LAO FORCES TO THE MEKONG RIVER AREA FROM THE TRI- BORDER TO JUST BELOW BAN HOU EI SAI. GSI CONTINUE THEIR SURVEILLANCE OF LOCAL TRAFFICKERS IN THE BAN HOU EI SAI AREA,

AND AIRPORT IN AN ATTEMPT TO EFFECT SEIZURES OF NARCOTICS.

(B) LUANG PRABANG: ACTIVITY OF GSI OFFICERS AT THIS LOCATION CONSISTED MAINLY OF AIRCRAFT CONTROLS AT THE LUANG PRABANG AIRPORT.

(C) SAYABOURY: GSI ACTIVITY DURING THIS PERIOD CONSISTED OF SURVEILLANCE OF KNOWN OPIUM BUYERS AT SAYABOURY, AND OPERATIONS AT THIS VILLAGES OF THADUA, AND MUONG NAM. IN COMPANY OF A PROSECUTOR, SEARCHES OF HUTS AT BAN NONG NGOUA, BAN PIENG AND BAN NAM TANE VILLAGES RESULTED IN THE DISCOVERY OF ONE PONG OF OPIUM POSSESSED BY A REGISTERED ADDICT IN POSSESSION OF WRITTEN AUTHORIZATION FOR THE OPIUM. THE OPIUM WAS RETURNED TO THE ADDICT.

(C) PASKE: NO SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY DURING THIS PERIOD. GSI OFFICERS ARE ATTEMPTING TO VERIFY INFORMATION RECEIVED CONCERNING THE TRAFFICKING OF OPIUM BY PATHET LAO FORCES WHICH AT THIS TIME PROVED NEGATIVE. OFFICERS ARE CONTINUING THEIR CONTROLS OF AIRCRAFT, PARTICULARLY CAMBODIAN MILITARY AIRCRAFT ENROUTE TO PHNOM PENH. ALL THE ABOVE PROVED NEGATIVE. DURING PERIOD OF APRIL 25, 1973, THROUGH APRIL 27, 1973, S/ A VOPAT VISITED THE PAKSE DISTRICT OFFICE TO INSPECT SAME AND ASSIST IN LOCATING NEW QUARTERS FOR DISTRICT OFFICE.

(F) VIENTIANE: DURING THIS PERIOD, THROUGH INFORMATION FURNISHED BY A SOURCE OF INFORMATION DEVELOPED BY A LAO NATIONAL POLICE, AND DEVELOPMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION THROUGH SURVEILLANCE BY LNP AND GSI OFFICERS, THREE BUSINESS PREMISES WERE SEARCHED FOR NARCOTICS IN A JOINT OPERATION CONSISTING OF LNP, MILITARY POLICE AND GSI OFFICERS TOTALING 50 OFFICERS. THE ABOVE SEARCHES, CONFIDENTIAL

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HEADED BY GENERAL KHAMHOU, PROVED NEGATIVE. THE THREE ABOVE MENTIONED LAO AGENCIES, EACH CONTRIBUTED VEHICLES AND RADIOS FROM THEIR SERVICES, WHERE THEY COOPERATED AND OPERATED AS A SINGLE UNIT.

GSI OFFICERS CONTINUE THEIR SURVEILLANCE OF SUSPECTED HEROIN TRAFFICKERS OF THE VIENTIANE AREA WHERE THEY NOTICED NO UNUSUAL SIGNS OF NARCOTICS ACTIVITY. ONE LAO AIRLINES AIRCRAFT FROM SAYABOURY WAS SEARCHED WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS AFTER RECEIPT OF INFORMATION FROM THE SAYABOURY OFFICE.

ON APRIL 25, 1973, A GENERAL MEETING WAS HELD AT THE SERVICE DE DOCUMENTATION OF THE LAO CHIEFS

OF ENFORCEMENT SERVICES, CONSISTING OF GSI, LNP, AND
MILITARY POLICE, U. S. ADVISORS, AND USAID TO DISCUSS
PROCUREMENT, COOPERATION, AND ENFORCEMENT PROBLEMS.

ON APRIL 27, 1973, U. S. EMBASSY REPRESENTATIVES OF
BURMA, THAILAND, AND LAOS BEGAN THEIR THREE DAY TRI-
COUNTRY NARCOTICS MEETING TO DISCUSS COOPERATION,
PROBLEMS, AND POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS IN ALL PHASES OF THE
NARCOTICS CONTROL PROGRAM. DURING THE MORNING OF THE
FIRST DAY, CHIEFS OF GSI, LNP, AND CUSTOMS WERE INVITED
AND ATTENDED THE CONFERENCE WHERE THEY EACH GAVE A
BRIEFING CONCERNING BACKGROUND, PROGRESS, AND OBJECTIVES
OF THEIR ENFORCEMENT PHASE OF THE NARCOTICS CONTROL
PROGRAM.

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